

ADDITIONAL CLERKS FOR THE GENERAL POST OFFICE  
DEPARTMENT.

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LETTER

FROM

THE POSTMASTER GENERAL,

ASKING

*An additional number of clerks for the Post Office Department.*

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AUGUST 4, 1856.—Referred to the Committee of Ways and Means.

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POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT, *August 2, 1856.*

SIR: Pursuant to a resolution adopted on the 19th February last, by the Committee of Ways and Means of the House of Representatives, I have the honor to transmit, herewith, a communication addressed to the honorable chairman of that committee, asking certain appropriations for the service of this department.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAMES CAMPBELL,  
*Postmaster General.*

Hon. N. P. BANKS,  
*Speaker of the House of Representatives.*

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POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT, *August 2, 1856.*

SIR: The act of Congress approved March 3, 1855, required prepayment of postage, from and after January 1, 1856, to be made by stamps, but contained no provision for the great additional labor and accounting rendered necessary by the enlarged duty imposed. Previously, stamps had been furnished only to the principal offices, in number about 3,800; but, under the act mentioned, it became necessary to supply all the post offices, numbering more than 24,000, thus increasing the labor at least five-fold. That the service may be promptly performed, and the public not subjected to injurious delays in obtaining supplies of stamps, I respectfully request that four clerks of the first-class, at \$1,200 per annum, may be added to the force of this department, and that the sum of \$4,800 may be appropriated for their compensation for one year.

Such has been the pressure of business in the contract office since the meeting of Congress that I have been compelled to employ temporary assistance, which cannot well be dispensed with till the close of the calendar year; and, therefore, I have further to request that an appropriation of \$1,684 71 be granted for temporary clerk-hire from 2d February to December 31, 1856.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAMES CAMPBELL.

Hon. LEWIS D. CAMPBELL,

*Chairman Committee of Ways and Means, Ho. of Reps.*